

## CLAIMS

### WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An adjustable fence rail supporting and positioning assembly, said assembly comprising:
    - a) a slotted member, said slotted member containing a plurality of uniformly-sized and uniformly-shaped slots spaced at regular intervals along a length of said slotted member and disposed through said slotted member;
    - b) a bracket member, said bracket member including:
      - i) a handle portion;
      - ii) a first slot-engaging portion detachably insertable into a first slot among said plurality of slots;
      - iii) a second slot-engaging portion detachably insertable into a second slot among said plurality of slots, said second slot-engaging portion being spaced at a predetermined distance from said first slot-engaging portion such that said second slot-engaging portion may be detachably inserted into said second slot while said first slot-engaging portion occupies said first slot; and
      - iv) a fence rail contacting portion having a fence rail contacting surface thereon; and
- wherein said bracket member detachably connects to said slotted member and clasps, supports and positions a fence rail against said slotted member, without

puncturing, damaging or defacing said fence rail, at a user-selected, user-modifiable elevation and at a user-selected, user-modifiable angle.

2. An assembly as in claim 1, wherein said slotted member is a fence post formed of extruded metal and said bracket member is formed of extruded metal.

3. An assembly as in claim 2, wherein said slotted member further comprises:

- a) a hexagonal portion;
- b) a first wing portion protruding from an exterior surface of a first wall of said hexagonal portion;
- c) a second wing portion protruding from an exterior surface of a third wall of said hexagonal portion; and

wherein:

- i) a fifth wall of said hexagonal portion contains a frontal portion of said slotted member and said plurality of slots;
- ii) said first wall and said third wall of said hexagonal portion are connected to, and spaced apart by a second wall of said hexagonal portion, said second wall connecting at a first end of said second wall to said first wall and at a second end distal said first end of said second wall to said third wall;
- iii) said third wall and said fifth wall of said hexagonal portion are connected to, and spaced apart by a fourth wall of said hexagonal portion, said fourth

17 wall connecting at a first end of said fourth wall to said third wall and at a  
18 second end distal said first end of said fourth wall to said fifth wall; and  
19 iv) said fifth wall and said first wall of said hexagonal portion are connected  
20 to, and spaced apart by a sixth wall of said hexagonal portion, said sixth  
21 wall connecting at a first end of said sixth wall to said fifth wall and at a  
22 second end distal said first end of said sixth wall to said first wall.

1 4. An assembly as in claim 3, wherein:

- 2 a) said first wing portion comprises a first wing medial wall and a first wing  
3 lateral wall, said first wing medial wall connecting to said first wall of said  
4 hexagonal portion and being disposed toward a curved connection with  
5 said first wing lateral wall, said first wing lateral wall being disposed from  
6 said curved connection with said first wing medial wall toward said first  
7 wall of said hexagonal portion and connecting at an end of said first wall  
8 proximate to said sixth wall of said hexagonal portion; and  
9 b) said second wing portion comprises a second wing medial wall and a  
10 second wing lateral wall, said second wing medial wall connecting to said  
11 third wall of said hexagonal portion and being disposed toward a curved  
12 connection with said second wing lateral wall, said second wing lateral  
13 wall being disposed from said curved connection with said second wing  
14 medial wall towards said third wall of said hexagonal portion and

15 connecting at an end of said third wall proximate to said fourth wall of  
16 said hexagonal portion.

1 5. An assembly as in claim 4, wherein:

2 a) an exterior surface of said first wing lateral wall contacts an edge of an  
3 exterior surface of said sixth wall of said hexagonal portion, thereby  
4 forming a smooth, shared exterior surface between said sixth wall and said  
5 first wing lateral wall; and

6 b) an exterior surface of said second wing lateral wall contacts an edge of an  
7 exterior surface of said fourth wall of said hexagonal portion, thereby  
8 forming a smooth, shared exterior surface between said fourth wall and  
9 said second wing lateral wall.

1 6. An assembly as in claim 2, wherein said slotted member is aluminum.

1 7. An assembly as in claim 1, wherein said plurality of uniformly-sized and  
2 uniformly-shaped slots are spaced at a determined interval along said length of  
3 said slotted member, said determined interval sized to space and configure said  
4 fence rail clasped, supported and positioned against said slotted member by said  
5 bracket member at a determined, optimum distance from an additional fence rail  
6 clasped, supported and positioned against said slotted member by a second  
7 bracket member.

- 1 8. An assembly as in claim 7, wherein said determined interval is sized to configure  
2 a fence having porosity of not less than 30 percent but no more than 50 percent.
- 1 9. An assembly as in claim 7, wherein said determined interval is sized to configure  
2 a fence having porosity of not less than 45 percent but no more than 50 percent.
- 1 10. An assembly as in claim 7, wherein said determined interval is sized to configure  
2 a fence having porosity of 35 percent and to alternatively configure an alternative  
3 fence having a porosity of 50 percent.
- 1 11. An adjustable fence rail supporting and positioning assembly, said assembly  
2 comprising:
- 3 a) a slotted member, said slotted member containing a plurality of uniformly-  
4 sized and uniformly-shaped slots spaced at regular intervals along a length  
5 of said slotted member and disposed through said slotted member;
- 6 b) a bracket member, said bracket member including:
- 7 i) a handle portion;
- 8 ii) a first slot-engaging portion detachably insertable into a first slot  
9 among said plurality of slots;
- 10 iii) a second slot-engaging portion detachably insertable into a second  
11 slot among said plurality of slots, said second slot-engaging portion

12 being spaced at a predetermined distance from said first slot-  
13 engaging portion such that said second slot-engaging portion may  
14 be detachably inserted into said second slot while said first slot-  
15 engaging portion occupies said first slot;  
16 iv) a fence rail contacting portion having a fence rail contacting  
17 surface thereon; and  
18 v) at least an ancillary fence rail support and engagement member;  
19 and  
20 wherein said bracket member detachably connects to said slotted member and  
21 clasps, supports and positions a fence rail against said slotted member, without  
22 puncturing, damaging or defacing said fence rail, at a user-selected, user-  
23 modifiable elevation and at a user-selected, user-modifiable angle.

1 12. An assembly as in claim 11, wherein said slotted member is a fence post formed  
2 of extruded metal and said bracket member is formed of extruded metal.

1 13. An assembly as in claim 12, wherein said slotted member is aluminum.

1 14. An assembly as in claim 11, wherein said ancillary fence rail support and  
2 engagement member has a convex surface to contact and support said fence rail.

1 15. An assembly as in claim 11, wherein said plurality of uniformly-sized and  
2 uniformly-shaped slots are spaced at a determined interval along said length of  
3 said slotted member, said determined interval sized to space and configure said  
4 fence rail clasped, supported and positioned against said slotted member by said  
5 bracket member at a determined, optimum distance from an additional fence rail  
6 clasped, supported and positioned against said slotted member by a second  
7 bracket member.

1 16. An assembly as in claim 15, wherein said determined interval is sized to configure  
2 a fence having porosity of not less than 30 percent but no more than 50 percent.

1 17. An assembly as in claim 15, wherein said determined interval is sized to configure  
2 a fence having porosity of not less than 45 percent but no more than 50 percent.

1 18. An assembly as in claim 15, wherein said determined interval is sized to configure  
2 a fence having porosity of 35 percent and to alternatively configure an alternative  
3 fence having a porosity of 50 percent.

1 19. A method for supporting and positioning a fence rail, said method comprising:  
2 a) providing said fence rail;  
3 b) providing a first adjustable fence rail supporting and positioning assembly,  
4 said first assembly comprising:

- 5 i) a slotted member containing a plurality of uniformly-sized and  
6 uniformly-shaped slots spaced at regular intervals along a length of  
7 said slotted member and disposed through said slotted member;  
8 and  
9 ii) at least a bracket member, said bracket member including:  
10 a handle portion;  
11 a first slot-engaging portion detachably insertable into a first slot  
12 among said plurality of slots;  
13 a second slot-engaging portion detachably insertable into a second  
14 slot among said plurality of slots, said second slot-engaging portion  
15 being spaced at a predetermined distance from said first slot-  
16 engaging portion such that said second slot-engaging portion may  
17 be detachably inserted into said second slot while said first slot-  
18 engaging portion occupies said first slot;  
19 a fence rail contacting portion having a fence rail contacting  
20 surface thereon; and  
21 optionally, at least an ancillary fence rail support and engagement  
22 member;  
23 c) providing at least an additional adjustable fence rail supporting and  
24 positioning assembly, said additional assembly comprising:  
25 i) an additional slotted member containing an additional plurality of  
26 uniformly-sized and uniformly-shaped slots spaced at regular



- intervals along a length of said additional slotted member and disposed through said additional slotted member;
- ii) at least an additional bracket member, said additional bracket member including:
- an additional handle portion;
  - an additional first slot-engaging portion detachably insertable into an additional first slot among said additional plurality of slots;
  - an additional second slot-engaging portion detachably insertable into an additional second slot among said additional plurality of slots, said additional second slot-engaging portion being spaced at a predetermined distance from said additional first slot-engaging portion such that said additional second slot-engaging portion may be detachably inserted into said additional second slot while said additional first slot-engaging portion occupies said additional first slot;
  - an additional fence rail contacting portion having an additional fence rail contacting surface thereon; and
  - optionally, at least an additional ancillary fence rail support and engagement member;
- d) positioning and affixing said slotted member of said first assembly in a generally vertical configuration, wherein said plurality of slots along said

length of said slotted member of said first assembly are spaced at regular,  
generally vertical intervals;

e) positioning and affixing said additional slotted member of said additional  
assembly in a generally vertical configuration at a user-selected distance  
from said slotted member of said first assembly;

f) inserting said first slot-engaging portion of said bracket member of said  
first assembly into said first slot among said plurality of slots of said  
slotted member of said first assembly;

g) positioning said fence rail between said bracket member of said first  
assembly and said slotted member of said first assembly;

h) inserting said second slot-engaging portion of said bracket member of said  
first assembly into said second slot among said plurality of slots of said  
slotted member of said first assembly while said first slot-engaging portion  
occupies said first slot of said slotted member of said first assembly and  
thereby clasp, supporting and positioning said fence rail against said  
slotted member of said first assembly at a user-selected, user-modifiable  
elevation;

i) inserting said additional first slot-engaging portion of said additional  
bracket member of said additional assembly into said additional first slot  
among said additional plurality of slots of said additional slotted member  
of said additional assembly;

- 69 j) positioning said fence rail between said additional bracket member of said  
70 additional assembly and said additional slotted member of said additional  
71 assembly; and
- 72 k) inserting said additional second slot-engaging portion of said additional  
73 bracket member of said additional assembly into said additional second  
74 slot among said additional plurality of slots of said additional slotted  
75 member of said additional assembly while said additional first slot-  
76 engaging portion occupies said additional first slot of said additional  
77 slotted member of said additional assembly and thereby clasping,  
78 supporting and positioning said fence rail against said slotted member of  
79 said additional assembly at a user-selected, user-modifiable elevation and  
80 at a user-selected, user-modifiable angle.

1 20. An method as in claim 19, wherein:

- 2 a) Said plurality of uniformly-sized and uniformly-shaped slots are spaced at  
3 a determined interval along said length of said slotted member, said  
4 determined interval sized to space and configure said fence rail clasped,  
5 supported and positioned against said slotted member by said bracket  
6 member at a determined, optimum distance from an additional fence rail  
7 clasped, supported and positioned against said slotted member by a second  
8 bracket member; and

9           b)    said additional plurality of uniformly-sized and uniformly-shaped slots are  
10           spaced at said determined interval along said length of said additional  
11           slotted member, said determined interval sized to space and configure said  
12           fence rail clasped, supported and positioned against said additional slotted  
13           member by said additional bracket member at said determined, optimum  
14           distance from said additional fence rail clasped, supported and positioned  
15           against said additional slotted member by an additional second bracket  
16           member.